

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (once amended) An air intake silencer comprising:

at least one air inlet pipe comprising a first end, a second end, and an inlet passage therethrough; and

Q2 at least one tuning tube comprising a first end, a second end, and a tuning passage therethrough, said tuning passage in fluid communication with said inlet passage and extending for a length selected to cancel noise of at least a first selected frequency passing through said inlet pipe.

2. (once amended) An air intake silencer in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said air inlet pipe is straight.

7. (once amended) An air intake silencer in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said at least one air inlet pipe and said at least one tuning tube are integrally formed.

8. (once amended) An air intake silencer in accordance with Claim 7 wherein said air inlet pipe and said at least one tuning tube comprise an air intake manifold.

Q3 9. (once amended) A cover for an outboard motor comprising:

a lower cover;

an upper cover configured for attachment to said lower cover; and

at least one air intake silencer attached to one of said upper cover and said lower cover and comprising:

at least one air inlet pipe comprising a first end, a second end, and an inlet passage therethrough; and

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at least one tuning tube comprising a first end, a second end, and a tuning passage therethrough, said tuning passage in fluid communication with said inlet passage and extending for a length selected to cancel noise of at least a first selected frequency passing through said inlet pipe.

10. (once amended) A cover in accordance with Claim 9 wherein said upper cover comprises a top wall, said at least one air intake silencer attached to said top wall.

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11. (once amended) A cover in accordance with Claim 9 wherein each of said upper cover and said lower cover comprises at least one side wall, said at least one air intake silencer attached to at least one side wall of said upper cover and said lower cover.

12. (once amended) A cover in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said lower cover comprises a bottom wall, said at least one air intake silencer attached to said bottom wall.

13. (once amended) A cover in accordance with Claim 9 wherein said at least one air intake silencer is integrally formed with said cover.

14. (once amended) A cover in accordance with Claim 9 wherein said at least one air inlet pipe and said at least one tuning tube comprise an air intake manifold.

15 (once amended) A cover in accordance with Claim 9 wherein said air inlet pipe is straight.

16. (once amended) A cover in accordance with Claim 15 wherein said tuning tube comprises a first segment in flow communication with said inlet passage, a second segment in flow communication with said inlet passage, and a third segment extending between said first segment and said second segment and in flow communication with said first segment and said second segment.

17. (once amended) A cover in accordance with Claim 16, said first segment and said second segment are separated from one another along an axis of said inlet pipe.

18. (once amended) A cover in accordance with Claim 9 wherein said tuning tube and said air inlet pipe have substantially equal diameters.

19. (once amended) A cover in accordance with Claim 9 further comprising at least another tuning tube, said at least another tuning tube in a wrap-around relationship with said at least one tuning tube.

20. (once amended) A cover in accordance with Claim 9 wherein said at least one air inlet pipe and said at least one tuning tube are integrally formed.

21. (once amended) An outboard motor engine comprising:

at least one air inlet for engine intake air; and

an air intake silencer coupled to said air inlet, said air intake silencer comprising at least one air inlet pipe coupled to said air inlet and at least one tuning tube in flow communication with said air inlet pipe, said air inlet pipe and said tuning tube configured to cancel a portion of sound traveling through said air inlet pipe.

22. (once amended) An outboard motor engine in accordance with Claim 21 wherein said air inlet pipe is straight.

23. (once amended) An outboard motor engine in accordance with Claim 21 wherein said tuning tube comprises a first segment in flow communication with an inlet pipe passage, a second segment in flow communication with said inlet pipe passage, and a third segment extending between said first segment and said second segment and in flow communication with said first segment and with said second segment.